

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 039643

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, ECON

SUBJECT: SEVENTH SPECIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION
ON DEVELOPMENT

REF: (A) USUN 0468; (B) USUN 0417

TO AMB. SCALI FROM THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

1. WE, TOO, SHARE YOUR CONCERN ON PLANS FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION. WE HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING, AT STAFF LEVEL, INITIATIVES WE MAY TAKE AT SUCH A SESSION IN RESPONSE TO THE CRITICAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS FACED BY THE WORLD AT THIS TIME AS WELL AS THOSE OF A LONGER-TERM NATURE AND RESULTING INSTITUTIONAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE UN SYSTEM. WE ARE AWARE THAT NEW APPROACHES ARE CALLED FOR, AS ENUNCIATED BY THE SECRETARY RECENTLY AT LOS ANGELES. THE NON-ALIGNED AND THE G-77 ARE, AS YOU KNOW, PROCEEDING UNDER ALGERIAN LEADERSHIP TO RE-DO MUCH OF THE SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION WITH HEAVY EMPHASIS ON COMMODITY ARRANGEMENTS AS REFLECTED AT THE RECENT DAKAR CONFERENCE.

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2. WE HAVE JUST AUTHORIZED THE FORMATION OF A SPECIAL

DEPARTMENT PREPARATORY GROUP WHICH WILL INCLUDE PREPARATION FOR US INITIATIVES ON MAJOR ISSUES AFFECTING OUR INTERESTS AS WELL AS THOSE OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD. WE REGARD THE

ISSUE OF COMMODITY ARRANGEMENTS AS PERHAPS THE KEY TO UNGA SS NO. 7. IT IS IMPORTANT, IN OUR VIEW, THAT THE DEBATE ON SUCH ISSUES BE CONDUCTED IN AN OBJECTIVE ATMOSPHERE LOOKING TOWARD ATTAINMENT OF A GENUINE CONSENSUS. THIS SESSION WILL BE HELD AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF WORLD RECESSION, FALLING COMMODITY PRICES, HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT WORLD WIDE, AND THESE FACTS WILL INHIBIT WHAT GOVERNMENTS CAN DO IN AID AND TRADE MATTERS AND WILL ACT AS PRESSURES ON OFFICIALS TO FOCUS ON SHORT-RANGE RATHER THAN LONG-TERM ISSUES. CHEAP PROPAGANDA VICTORIES INCORPORATING POLITICAL ISSUES AND BROUGHT TO ADOPTION BY AN INSISTENT MAJORITY THAT DOES NOT HAVE THE SUPPORT OF MAJOR AID AND TRADING COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD, WILL PRODUCE NO GAIN FOR THE LDC'S AND FURTHER DISCREDIT THE UN. IT IS IMPORTANT, THEREFORE, THAT OUR PREPARATORY PROCESS INCLUDE AN OBJECTIVE AND FACTUAL ANALYSIS OF THE WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION WE ARE FACING AND ITS IMPACT ON DEVELOPMENT AND THAT WE SEEK SOLUTIONS ON AN ALL-MEMBER BASIS.

3. WE SHALL, OF COURSE, SEEK WESTERN AGREEMENT ON A BROAD STRATEGY AND SUGGEST THAT IN YOUR CONTACTS WITH WEO PERM REPS YOU ENCOURAGE THEM TO HAVE THEIR REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT VIEWS OF THE GOVERNMENTS ON THE SPECIAL SESSION IN SOME DETAIL AT THE THREE-DAY MEETING OF THE OECD FOR THIS PURPOSE TO BE HELD IN PARIS MARCH 5-7. THE NON-ALIGNED BLOCK HAS ALREADY DEVELOPED THE MAJOR PORTION OF ITS AGENDA AT THE DAKAR CONFERENCE AS REFLECTED IN ITS 20 ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL RESOLUTIONS PLUS A DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION. THESE DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE FORMALLY TRANSMITTED BY SENEGAL TO THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA AS WELL AS SUBORDINATE BODIES, WITH AN INVITATION TO IMPLEMENT THEM. WE SHALL LOOK TO OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS AND COOPERATION IN DEVELOPING COMMON POSITIONS TO DEAL WITH SUCH LDC DEMANDS. KISSINGER
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